NewsRelease

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Colloquium on Tuesday, January 19

The Coming Revolution in Flight: Cary R. Spitzer

After decades of using ground-based navigation aids and voice communications, today there is a global movement towards satellite-based navigation and digital data communication. Cary R. Spitzer, a graduate of Virginia Tech and George Washington University, will speak about the coming revolution in flight at a colloquium on Tuesday, January 19 at 2 p.m., at the H.J.E. Reid Conference Center.

Many aircraft operators and nations are beginning to implement Communications Navigation Surveillance for Air Traffic Management (CNS/ATM) in hopes of achieving benefits such as reduced operating costs, and increased safety and airspace capacity. Spitzer will discuss how NASA Langley and other organizations have developed and demonstrated numerous CNS/ATM technologies and procedures. This talk will also review the technologies involved, the anticipated benefits, and the state of international implementation.

Spitzer joined NASA Langley, after service in the United States Air Force. During his last tenure at NASA, he focused on avionics. He was the NASA manager of a joint NASA/Honeywell program that led to the first satellite-guided automatic landing of a passenger transport aircraft in November 1990. He led a project to define the experimental and operational requirements for a transport aircraft suitable for conducting flight experiments. Today that aircraft is the recently commissioned NASA Langley B-757 ARIES flight research platform.

A media briefing will be held at 1:15 p.m. in the Wythe Room of the Reid Conference Center, 14 Langley Blvd. in Hampton. Media who wish to attend the briefing should contact Kimberly Land at (757) 864-9885.